

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/998,889	11/01/2001	Paul Mertens	99,252-A

CONFIRMATION NO. 7630

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC00000007194011

Amir N. Penn
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff
32nd Floor
300 S. Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

Date Mailed: 12/14/2001

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

This application has been accorded an Application Number and Filing Date. The application, however, is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)

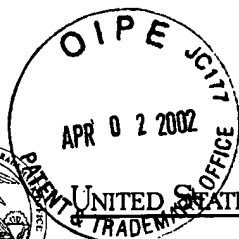
The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- o A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52 because:
 - The specification cannot be scanned or properly stored. Page(s)
 - o do not contain writing on only one side of the page. *The drawings filed are unacceptable because: Replacement page(s), together with a statement that the replacement page(s) contain no new matter, are required.*

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



#4

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

Application Number	Filing Date	First Named Applicant	Atty. Docket No.
09/998,889	11/01/2001	Mertens, Paul	99,252-A

Amir N. Penn
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff
32nd Floor
300 S. Wacker Drive
Chicago IL 60606

Title: Method and apparatus for removing a liquid from a surface

Date Mailed: 03/19/2002

Request for Substitute Papers

The papers filed on 03/01/02 (certificate of mailing dated 02/13/02) are no longer in condition to become part of the permanent records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for this application (37 CFR 1.52(a)) due to the United States Postal Service sanitization process.

The USPTO requests that applicant provide a copy of the above-identified papers (except for any U.S. or foreign patent documents submitted with the above-identified papers) with a statement that such copy is a complete and accurate copy of the above-identified papers (signing and returning a copy of this notice will provide such a statement). The reply to this letter should be submitted to the USPTO by facsimile at the number indicated .

Alternatively, the reply to this letter may be hand-carried to the Customer Service Window located in Room 1B03 of Crystal Plaza Building 2, Arlington, Virginia, 22202.

The USPTO **strongly** prefers that the reply to this letter be submitted by facsimile. However, if applicant cannot submit the reply to this letter by facsimile (or hand-delivery), the reply may be mailed to: Box Duplicate , U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202-2327.

This letter is not a notice under 37 CFR 1.251. However, failure to timely replay to this notice within **two (2) weeks** of the date of receipt of this letter may result in the USPTO issuing a notice under 37 CFR 1.251. **A copy of this notice should be included with the reply.**

The enclosed papers are a complete and accurate copy of the above-identified papers.

Name: Amir N. Penn Registration No.: 40,767
Signature: Amir N. Penn Date: 3/29/02

#4

PATENT
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 99,252-A)

In re Application of:

- Mertens, et al.

Serial No.: 09/998,889

Filed: November 1, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
REMOVING A LIQUID FROM A

Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No. 7630

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

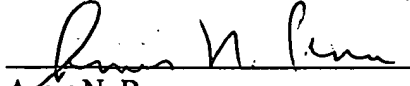
In regard to the above-identified application:

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached
 - a. Response to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers
 - b. Copy of Notice to File Corrected Application Papers
 - c. A substitute specification
 - d. Substitute drawings
 - e. Return receipt postcard
2. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
3. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper described in paragraph 1, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 13th day of February, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Date: February 13, 2002

By:


Amir N. Penn
Reg. No. 40,767

#4



Hon. Commissioner of 09/998,889
Patents and Trademarks
Re: Applicant - Mertens, et al.

Atty: ANP
Case No. 99,252-A

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING A LIQUID FROM A SURFACE

Sir:

Please place the Patent Office receipt stamp hereon and mail to acknowledge receipt of:

- ☒ Transmittal Letter w/duplicate
- ☒ Response to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers
- ☒ Copy of Notice to File Corrected Application Papers
- ☒ Substitute specification
- ☒ Substitute drawings
- ☒ Return receipt postcard

Fee Enclosed
\$ 0.00

Date Mailed: February 13, 2002

Respectfully,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff
Attorney for Applicant

#3

PATENT
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 99,252-A)

In re Application of:

Mertens, et al.

Serial No.: 09/998,889

Filed: November 1, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
REMOVING A LIQUID FROM A

Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No. 7630

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED
APPLICATION PAPERS

Attn: Box Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

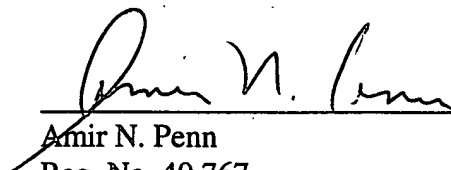
In accordance with the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers dated December 14, 2001, a copy of which is attached, we are filing herewith a substitute specification including substitute drawings. Applicants state that no new matter has been entered.

Respectfully submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Date: February 13, 2002

By:


Amir N. Penn
Reg. No. 40,767